

ORATION,
DELIVERED AT TAMMANY-HALL,
ON THE
TWELFTH MAY, 1831,
BEING THE
FORTY-SECOND ANNIVERSARY,
OF THE
TAMMANY SOCIETY,
Or, COLUMBIAN ORDER.

BY MYER MOSES,

A MEMBER OF SAID SOCIETY.

NEW-YORK:

P. VAN PELT, PRINTER,
NO. 7 FRANKFORT-STREET, NEXT TO TAMMANY-HALL.

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THE undersigned, Committee of Arrangements for the Celebration of the late Anniversary of the Tammany Society, or Columbian Order, beg leave to express to you, in the name of the Society, their thanks for the able, eloquent, and truly patriotic Oration delivered by you on that occasion, and respectfully solicit that you will favor them with a Copy for publication.

To Brother

MYER MOSES.

P. W. SPICER,
JOHN H. WATSON,
WM. PAXSON HALLETT,
JNO. J. BEDIENT,
CHARLES MAPES,
CHARLES MILLS,
JOHN A. MORRILL,
ELIJAH F. PURDY,
JOHN HILLYER.

New-York, May 13, 1831.

GENTLEMEN :

I have before me your friendly Note, in which you are pleased to express your approbation of the Oration delivered by me, before the "Tammany Society, or Columbian Order," upon the occasion of the forty-second Anniversary of that patriotic association. You also request a copy for publication. As the Oration contains no solitary expression, that I would wish either to withhold, or retract, I herewith furnish you with the Manuscript, to be used as you may think proper.

Respectfully, Gentlemen,

Your fellow-citizen,

MYER MOSES.

*To P. W. Spicer, John H. Watson, Wm. P. Hallett, Jno. J. Bedient, Charles Mapes,
Charles Mills, John A. Morrill, Elijah F. Purdy, John Hillyer, Esqrs,*

New-York, May 14, 1831.

ORATION.

FELLOW-CITIZENS :

We are assembled to commemorate the forty-second anniversary of the Tammany Society, or Columbian Order ; an association that originated in patriotic feeling, and whose existence is coeval with that period of our history which gave to us a permanent government, and a rank among the nations of the earth. To the peculiar construction of our republican institutions, may be traced much of that proud elevation of character that appertains to the people of these United States : regarded in the social and domestic relations of life, they are entitled to a position with the first among the moral and religious portions of the civilized world ; viewed as connected with the objects and concerns of government, they stand pre-eminently distinguished. The only people actuated exclusively from principle, to an ardent love and pure devotion to country, are the citizens of this democratic republic ; the only government entitled to the attachment of a people thus constituted, is that with which it is our happy destiny to be identified.

The causes which led to this bond of connection, and which formed this bright chain of reciprocity, may be traced to a period even anterior to our national existence, and to the virtue and patriotism of our fathers, must be attributed the immediate agency, through which our independence was effected, and which gave to our free institutions the stamp of security and permanency.

At the close of the revolutionary war, we presented a grand and imposing spectacle, which, while it amazed, won for it a general admiration, forcing its influence even within the precincts where the sound of liberty was wont to be heard but in dying accents. The acts of noble daring, and the intrepidity of character—the devotedness to a holy cause, and the stern virtue and chivalric spirit that marked its progress, constituted the nation's armour, and were the shields of that successful defence that conducted her to glorious victory; but the blest issue of the protracted and bloody conflict, while it restored to the conquerors their homes and their firesides, yet brought with it no security for their permanent enjoyment or peaceful possession. The young nation, reposing for a time after its perils and its toils, was awoke from its slumber to a sense of its danger; it was reminded that its liberty was achieved but not secured; it looked in vain for a government, for it had adopted none; it asked for the charter of its rights, and the volume of its statutes, but they were not to be found. Such was the alarming situation in which the nation found itself, and such was the eventful crisis that marked

the first four years succeeding the peace of 1783. The people were sensibly alive to their condition ; they were aware of the danger that surrounded them, and too familiar with the causes, even to sustain them in a solitary hope that a remedy could be afforded. The conflicting interests so evidently apparent in the different states presented a formidable barrier to the forming an acceptable constitution. Political and commercial jealousies existed ; a vile aristocracy was diffusing its poison throughout the land ; glaring disparities in the wealth, population and territory of the respective states, created matter for distrust and ill surmises. A thin population scattered over a vast country, and essentially differing in their habits and education, gave additional cause for apprehension. The variety of religions, with their concomitant prejudices, formed no trifling item in the dark catalogue of grievances. The powers of the national legislature were of limited extent, and often inefficient when it was most required that they should have possessed enlarged authority. These formed the combination of evils—the dark cloud of trouble that lowered upon our country. It was indeed a rude and appalling time : one of confirmed and dreadful agitation ; for it was then that the voice of Washington had ceased to sound melodious on the ear of the nation, and the appeals of the fathers in council, clothed in wisdom and shielded by virtue, had lost their potent influence. It was at this juncture that the entire political horizon of the country was enshrouded in darkness, and the whole nation was enveloped in deep and heavy gloom ; but yet amidst these portentous scenes, there was a gleam of hope

remaining, through which a ray of brightness was perceptible ; it was inspired by mutual confidence ; it came in bold relief ; it was a knowledge of the character of the American people ; a proper estimate of their virtue and patriotism. That people who had afforded such confirmed evidences of principle ; who had offered such determined proofs of their love of rational liberty ; such a people could not thus early have degenerated, and become lost to every sense of exalted feeling ; could not have sunk so debased in their natures, as to have already blotted from their memories the hallowed recollection of the thousands of martyrs in the cause of liberty, whose bones were yet bleaching where valiant warriors fell, and whose sainted spirits were looking down with anxious solicitude upon their perturbed country. These were the fond hopes that sustained the patriot, the reanimating reflections that cheered him. These formed the all-inspiring subject that brightened up the gloomy thought, and gave happy prospect of a day to come, the blessed events of which should relieve all doubt, realize all anticipations, and give to the cause of virtuous liberty a grateful offering.

Came not this day at last, and came it not in proud triumph, when the excelling patriotism of the people predominated, and the cloud of darkness was dispelled, succeeded by a radiancy of brightness ? Came it not in full vigour and strength, bursting with fell dismay and discomfiture upon the pitiful, wavering and disaffected ? Came it not in glory, in that majesty and purity of character, that

secured for us a proud elevation and a name mighty among the nations of the earth? Did not the period arrive, when the demon of religious intolerance sunk before the intellectual light of reason; when the dangerous influence of wealth was made subservient to the supremacy of talent, and when the wiles of a despicable aristocracy were lost in the anathemas of an indignant people? Yes, fellow-citizens, that memorable epoch in our history shall live forever in healthful vigour. The year 1789 shall be allotted as fair a spot upon the escutcheon of the nation, as that which points to 1776. For the godlike patriotism that induced to the declaration of American independence, did not surpass that virtuous devotion to country, that led to the adoption of the federal constitution. Both shall shine forth as incomparable jewels, the excellent purity of which shall, to remotest ages, bedazzle the world's wide space.

Where shall the finger point when it would direct the inquiring mind to the sources of these unparalleled events? where trace the origin that led to our happiness and independence? Why it would commence with the cradle of our liberties, open to view the scenes of Lexington, illustrative of the first exploits achieved through the majesty of the people. It would then lead it to this spot, the seat of our homes, where the fathers, great in wisdom, and urged by patriotism, sat in council, and proclaimed to the world, that "all men were created free; that they were endowed by their Creator with certain

unalienable rights ; that among these, were life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness ;” and that the voice of the people re-echoed the godlike declaration, and in support thereof, “pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honors.” It would carry it through the march of seven years of bloody warfare ; mark out the line of battles by flood and field, of carnage and of spoil, of sufferings and privations, and rest at last in happy relief upon the thrice glorious triumph of Yorktown ; then after this cessation of arms, and the young and victorious nation changing the rude character of war for the more genial pursuits of peace, a temporary cloud would overcast the grandeur of the picture, but the mind’s vision would soon be relieved by a brilliant prospective leading it to the sublime subject—the consummation of a nation’s happiness, through the adoption of a system of government unparalleled in the annals of the world ; an inimitable work produced by the master spirits of the age, and adopted by *right of the people*.

From all these incontestible proofs of the immediate agency of the people, in all that appertains to our existence as a free and independent nation, the inference is self-evident, that as the government is of their own creation, and their claims firmly established upon immovable grounds, so do they become sensibly alive to its objects, and intensely interested in whatever appertains to it. The people, therefore, as the natural guardians of their own rights, constitute a wholesome check upon the

authorities in office ; and while the use of this prerogative by an enlightened and liberal people, can never have a tendency to restrict the public servants, in what these servants may conceive to be a proper discharge of their duties ; it nevertheless successfully directs its influence (however exalted the object) against the designs of the corrupt, the wiles of the intriguing, and the machinations of the ambitious. Hence it was, at that immediate period when our national existence assumed a character, and gave promise of permanency, patriotic and political associations were formed ; the objects of which were not only directed to commemorate the prominent events growing out of the revolution, but for the further and important purpose of concentrating public opinion, and by an amalgamation of kindred feelings, present in an imposing shape, a weight of influence to be exercised exclusively in promoting what may be conceived the public good. The earliest of these associations known to our history is the “ Tammany Society, or Columbian Order.” It stands conspicuous in the political annals of the state, as having materially contributed, upon various and important occasions, in giving a tone and action to measures that have conduced to the best interests of the country. The power of its lever has not been confined within the precincts of its location, but has frequently been recognised and felt throughout the union.

The Tammany Society was instituted on the 12th May, 1789, but many of its founders had long anterior to that period, been induced, from patriotic

ardor, to associate together for the purpose of counteracting the base designs of the remnant of the disaffected, who, taking advantage of the magnanimity that permitted them to remain among us, were endeavoring to weaken the attachments of the people, and to undermine the temporary institutions of our unsettled government. These vipers, who had been nourished in the bosom of a generous people, soon after disappeared, or only lurked in despised obscurity, upon the surface of that goodly land, the very heart of which they would have poisoned and destroyed. The adaptation of the name of our Society is peculiarly happy, as illustrative of the motives that led to its formation, and the objects contemplated to be realized. The name of Christopher Columbus is familiar to every ear, and will live to after ages in grateful recollection; as the discoverer of the western world, he conduced to those important changes in the history of mankind, which have tended to the spread of light, and to an amelioration of their condition.

The history of our patron, Tammany, derived from the uncertain light of tradition, marks this son of the forest as combining within himself every virtuous, patriotic and useful quality. As a warrior, he possessed consummate bravery, and in council, profound wisdom. He loved liberty, and was devoted to his country. He was the friend of the white man, and shielded him from the deep-rooted hatred of the warriors of his nation. This was that son of the forest, that illustrious man whose name honors and distinguishes our patriotic association.

While we have ever been anxious to imitate his virtues and his patriotism, and while we may claim to ourselves one undivided effort in promoting such measures as would advance the best interests of our beloved country, we have like our noble patron, been often assailed by the enemies of liberty, and have had to contend against the well digested plans of the restless and ambitious ; but our motto has been—“ *to advance, not to recede*”—and we have complied with its very spirit. We have passed through periods of gloom when our council fires burnt dim indeed, and when the sanctity of our own wigwams was violated, and the torch of bitter persecution was directed against them ; but confidence in the justice of our cause, and energy in promoting its objects, strengthened the chain of our union, and brought defeat and discomfiture to our implacable foe. Is there a son of Tammany, one of the Columbian Order, so lost to every proud feeling, as to have forgotten that such things were ? Is there one who, if asked if he does not wear them near his heart, but will respond “*Et-ho,*” and if required to say whether they shall ever be erased from the seat of his memory, which of them will not proudly exclaim “*Yauchta ?*”

If I may be permitted a short digression, I would indulge in relating an interesting coincidence.—Through the march of time, and in that indiscriminate havoc that it makes of man, we recognise as moving upon this earthly sphere, but one of that illustrious galaxy of patriots who signed the declaration of American independence. The name of

Charles Carroll will lose nothing of its purity and worth, if we should write under it, that of William Mooney, the only surviving founder of the Tammany Society, and first among all of those patriotic men, who gave the impress of his name to its constitution. This venerable man must have been born a democrat; for surely if unwearied zeal, untiring perseverance, and a holy devotion to the cause of rational liberty, did ever make up one entire character in man, it is to be found in him. Live on old man! live on thou first of the Tammanites! live in the winter of your day supremely blest, for the *Great Spirit* has smiled upon you; He has given you a wonderful and a still increasing country to look upon, and permits you the proud privilege of exclaiming—towards all this did I zealously contribute!

Sachems, Brothers and Fellow Citizens—

It has been reserved to this eventful age, that its history should form a new and most imposing era—one peculiarly interesting to the whole human race; materially affecting the organization of society, and involving the destinies of millions yet unborn. It is a world's crisis upon which a world's best hopes are sustained; embracing the regeneration of man, and presenting him in that noble attitude for which he was ordained by the laws of nature and of nature's God. A crisis produced through the influence of intellectual light, dissipating that mass of darkness through which mankind had been doomed to grope under the iron grasp of tyranny and persecution;—that has awakened the

spirit of liberty, and that sounds the funeral knell of despotism. A crisis that has stripped royalty of its assumed prerogatives, and thrown bare its vices and deformities ; that marks man actuated by the imperative laws of nature, sustaining his claims upon the immutable principles of eternal justice, and the incontrovertible doctrines of confirmed right. When such motives actuate, and such causes excite, what has man, long persecuted and oppressed, to apprehend ? what has he not to hope from the all-momentous events that now agitate the European world ? The convulsions may be severe and protracted, but the issue of the struggle will speak the character of the age ; posterity shall do it justice, for to them shall be transmitted a matchless inheritance ; the emancipation of man through the triumph of principle.

In tracing the origin of the causes that have partially, and will effectually lead to the disenthralment of our species, what a measure of proud feeling does the elucidation produce upon the bosom of every American. What gleam of light, even remotely distant, did devoted Europe behold, shedding one promising ray upon its suffering condition, until it was emitted from the western world. How gradual, but certain, have been the influences of that holy fire lighted up by the revolutionary war, speeding its course across the Atlantic, and irradiating a long benighted region. It was the precursor of great events—the comprehensive note of preparation ; it invigorated feelings, depressed by hope long deferred ; awakened energies that had slept from

forced inaction, and whispered to the congenial ear the all absorbing subject of the mind's possession. The period at last approached, when the ethereal flame of American liberty was to burst upon the fairest portion of continental Europe. It had long been nurtured in the ardent and patriotic bosom of a zealous and devoted votary; of a master spirit of the age, our own by right, *the disciple of Washington—the good, the great La Fayette*. Had it been the blest destiny of interesting France, that the sacred trust had been permitted a direction under the pure feelings which actuated, and the noble incentives that governed this devoted patriot, the eye would never have turned sickened from scenes of cruel devastation, nor the mind have revolted at the oceans of human blood, that stained the early periods of the French revolution; yet it is decreed in wisdom, that often, “good shall come out of evil.” The cruelties and enormities that mark with an indelible blot the Robespierian days, that interesting France was doomed to pass through, were the beacon lights thrown out to direct a world in the pursuit of freedom, how to avoid the destructive shoals that had so convulsed and threatened the very existence of that great nation. And did not France herself profit by the dear yet imposing lesson? did she not rise in a cloud of glory, and did not the brilliancy that marked her martial exploits, obscure a recollection of the recent dark page of her history? Did not Napoleon raise for France a monument of imperishable fame? Was it not the spirit of that day, that tore down the barriers of bigotry and prejudice, that had so

long impeded the march of intellect ; that snatched from obscurity those treasures, which a long race of legitimates, under “right divine,” had ordained to remain hidden ? It was the establishment of liberal institutions, that called forth the resources of an enlightened and cultivated people, and that identified with France an association of every “*materiale*” that distinguished her progressive course in all that could render her pre-eminently great. It was this interesting state of things, that arrested the attention of the whole of Europe, and that wrote in legible characters the “*signs of the times*,” foretelling general emancipation, through the march of intellectual light.

And has not the spirit of reform aroused from its slumber, and who shall dare impede its progress ? The patriot flame burns bright throughout the world, and lights up the cause of suffering humanity. In the benighted regions of Spain and Portugal, where refined cruelty, bigotry, and intolerance outstrips the character of the fifteenth century, a glimmering ray is perceptible, giving to hope revived, prospects of a better destiny. Its course is now speeding through Belgium ; has reanimated the heroic and long suffering Poles, and has enkindled in the land of a *Kosciusko* and a *Pulaski*, a noble spirit which may yet speed it on to freedom. It has even spread upon Italy, and shall progress unimpeded through the papal dominions. It has long been nurtured in Ireland—the fair Emerald Isle—where breathes an instinctive love of liberty, the strings of whose harp have

ever been tuned to the melodious strains of freedom, and whose willows, bedewed with sorrow, drooped low, and moistened that parent earth which received into its bosom, the manes of an *Emmett* and his illustrious associates—devoted victims of tyrannical power!—sainted martyrs in a holy cause. It is cherished in the land where sleeps a *Botivar*, and glows in many a patriot bosom, alike devoted to the cause of liberty, and to the memory of that illustrious individual, of whom it shall belong to posterity, as an act of justice, to associate with the illustrious of the age.

Let us now turn from these interesting scenes of doubtful issue, that agitate a large portion of the civilized world, and dwell upon the finished picture that our own happy country presents. The rise and progress of these United States so far outstrips the most sanguine expectation, that the mind can scarcely be brought to its realization. We have numbered but a half century of national existence, and we stand in the full bone of manhood, and exhibit a ripened character in whatever can render a people great and powerful. We have forced the admiration, and compelled the respect of every foreign nation. Our gigantic strides in all that constitute us powerful, have secured for us a prominent position upon the great political chart; and shielded by a vast ocean from the storms and convulsions of distracted Europe, we avoid the continual irruptions that agitate that devoted portion of the world. In accomplishing the great ends that have led to our present enviable condition, how large a share

of merit is due to the virtue, the patriotism and the intelligence of the people. That we have had our intestine commotions, and that these have occasionally assumed a serious character, we are free to admit. Perfection is not the attribute of man.—Every association, however pure its motives—however devoted its pursuits in the cause of virtue and justice, will be impeded in its progress, by the deleterious matter that will mingle with it. Our beloved republic strongly illustrates the fact : we have scattered among us the poisonous plants of corruption, the noxious branches of ambition, and the tainted twigs of aristocracy ; but happily they never flourish in a soil so uncongenial to their growth ; they wither and decay, when brought in collision with the devoted love of country that attaches to the American people. The first evidence of the triumph of this principle was in 1798, and the second proof afforded by the people, of their attachment and obedience to the constituted authorities, was during our second war. The administration of the elder Adams gathered around it and called to prominent appointment, men who advocated doctrines that were considered dangerous to the rights and liberties of the people. The adoption of the alien and sedition laws, curtailed the powers and circumscribed the privileges of the people ; and the measures contemplated, of a large standing army and powerful navy, produced symptoms of extreme alarm. A discerning people, jealous of their rights, could not look upon the events of the day in cold inactivity ; they could not but be alarmed at the schemes of this powerful party ; they beheld in

their progress, if not checked, the probable dissolution of all that was dear to their individual happiness and national prosperity. Pending these conflicts with the cause of the people, there was identified no common advocate. The genius of liberty rejoiced and brightened up her countenance, when she beheld foremost in her ranks, the *immortal Jefferson*! him legitimately called the *Father of Democracy*; his powerful arm averted the blow aimed at the liberties of his country; he opened to view the bold designs, and exposed the impending dangers; his voice was that of eloquence, for it poured forth truth; his admonitions were those of wisdom, and shielded the rights, the liberties and the independence of the people. From this sanctified hour of our country's deliverance, the principles of the Jeffersonian school have prevailed; while they have advanced the best interests of the nation, they have effectually counteracted the designs of the apostates of liberty, of men alien to every feeling of honor—every influence of patriotism. Our second war again proudly illustrates the triumph of the people, over the vilest coalition that ever existed; one that, while its enormities were shielded from merited punishment, under the privileges afforded by liberal and lenient laws, abused this sacred right by advocating disaffection, and weakening the arm of government at a moment of extreme and confirmed danger.

We have now reached a crisis that is marked with no less importance to the liberties of the people, and the prosperity of the country, than either

of the two, of which we have spoken. The brilliant exploits that marked the progress of our second war, and its glorious results; the tranquility of our country, and its unparalleled advancement since that memorable period, would, it was fondly hoped have exhibited the entire people as bound by one adamant chain of attachment towards it; but, shame to our natures, this patriotic desire was not to be realized; and part of the same material that villified and abused the sage of Monticello, that proclaimed the late war unholy and unrighteous, and prayed for the success of the enemy, are now a part of the prominent actors in an opposition to that illustrious citizen, distinguished by the proud appellation of the "*hero of New-Orleans*"—of him pronounced by the immortal Jefferson, as "*the man who had filled the measure of his country's glory.*" With this dangerous phalanx, there is associated a variety of incongruous material, made up of the restless—the ambitious—the sordid, and the disappointed of all parties; from the would-be *patrician*, who would establish an order of *exclusives*, to the very "*slave of the lamp*," who waits in anxious expectancy to gather from the crumbs of office.

The press also has been brought into active requisition, and has abated nothing of that virulent abuse and slander that marked its character during the administration of our Jefferson. The scenes of private life, remote, and entirely disconnected from public affairs, are animadverted upon with no ordinary malevolence; and these self-constituted inquisitors, regardless of the wound they inflict, and

reckless of all consequences, act both as drawers and endorsers of every scandal, furnished by their pitiful purveyors, the hireling gossips of the day. No solitary act of the administration, however pure and patriotic, but what has been tortured into a deformity. The opposition of these dignified and patriotic editors, commenced from the very day that the *illustrious Jackson* was inducted into office, and has been pursued up to this immediate moment, characterized by no common share of bitterness. He was violently assailed because he preferred friends to enemies; because, in the exercise of a right, he consulted his own judgment; and, influenced by the convictions of his discriminating mind, and by a proper regard to the interests of his country, he removed individuals from office, who were opposed to his election, and appointed to their places firm advocates and competent men; a measure required from the character that marked the contest that elevated him to the presidency, and imperatively demanded as a necessary means of securing, in every department of the government, the zealous and faithful co-operation of its officers, in order to sustain the best interests and dignity of the nation.

His cabinet was peculiarly obnoxious, and not only formed the lasting theme of their remarks, but served them as a channel through which they would lacerate the first officer of the government; and when, from circumstances that have sufficiently agitated the public mind, and not necessary upon this occasion to be commented upon, that cabinet

thought proper to resign, they then, with their usual candour, prophecy that it is ominous of the downfall of the administration; and, true to their unhallowed purpose, they have already passed in judgment upon that enlightened citizen designated for the bureau of state; failing to establish him a public defaulter, they resort to another expedient, and urge that age has worked a decay of those energies of mind, necessary for that responsible office, and this they unblushingly advance as an objection to that exalted individual, who but now has given to the world a code of criminal law, that has obtained for him a distinguished celebrity, with the enlightened of both hemispheres, and has secured for him a rank among the first jurists of the age. But let the storm rage, and let the rancorous passions be fed, even to satiety; let every unprincipled press become the channel, through which shall pass every variety of low scurrility and unqualified abuse: its freedom should never be suppressed, however licentious its character; an enlightened people constitute the proper tribunal to pass in judgment upon it; for it has been wisely remarked by Mr. Jefferson, that "the licentiousness of the press, produces the same effect as the restraint of the press was intended to do; the restraint was to prevent things being told, and the licentiousness of the press prevents things being believed when they are told."

It is unnecessary to revert particularly to the acts of the present administration, to sustain its claim upon the admiration and attachment of the people. Wherever the eye turns throughout our

vast and diversified country, it is to behold scenes of happiness and prosperity that open upon thirteen millions of the human family, While our national institutions present a most imposing character, and our coffers groan under the weight of their abundant treasure, our intercourse with foreign nations is established upon the most solid basis, and promises the most permanent advantages. While the liberal and mild character of our government offers an asylum to the oppressed of the world, the unbounded resources of our country hold out an inducement to talent and to industry, and invite to our shores one continual flood of emigration. The enterprising character of our people is to be seen in all the diversity of the pursuits of life, and improving upon the facilities that a bountiful nature has thrown open to them, they are not only advancing to individual prosperity but to national greatness. Education, the effective pioneer to intellectual light, is generally diffused, and its blessings reach the most obscure corners of our enviable country. Literature and the arts and sciences are upon the rapid march of progression, and will, at no remote period, compete with the European world. The pursuits of the agriculturist are amply rewarded, and the unparalleled increase and spread of our commerce, throws open to the fruits of his industry the whole world as a market. Manufactures are flourishing, and extend their usefulness throughout every section of the country; and, under the protection which the government affords to these infant establishments, there is every hope that they will reach that state

of prosperity, which may no longer require for them more of the guardianship of the government, than is afforded to the various occupations of the people—all of which, with this solitary exception, stand upon their own merits, and rely exclusively upon their own resources. The mechanical branches, in all the variety of their usefulness, are advancing with rapid pace, and are daily affording rich proofs of skill and ingenuity; indeed, wherever the eye turns, it is to behold scenes of delight—of unparalleled happiness. This is the plain, unvarnished tale of the state of our country, and yet even within this paradise, there are evil spirits that would disturb its harmony, and sunder the silken cord that unites its symmetry and beauty. Yes, a bold and insidious coalition have raised the banner of disaffection, and every desperate politician rallies around it; but defeat and discomfiture awaits them; the virtue and patriotism of the people will prevail; and present an increase of the confidence of the nation towards that excellent citizen who now presides over its destinies. Again shall he be called to fill the most distinguished situation that can be conferred upon a freeman, and again shall the people hail him, and again shall he be proclaimed throughout the republic—"The man the people delighteth to honour."

The name assumed by the political "*Olla Podrida*"—who are scattering their firebrands throughout the land, is that of *National Republicans*. They are by no means fastidious in their selection, and,

consequently, are composed of every grade and shade comprised within the nomenclature of party—

“Black spirits and white,
Red spirits and gray,
Mingle mingle mingle,
You that mingle may——.”

The variety of hues that distinguish this political amalgamation, are not more remarkable than are the singularly opposite motives that have brought them together. While among them are to be found many distinguished and honorable men, whose opposition to the present administration is predicated upon no sinister motive, but upon views, however false in principle, yet honestly impressed; still a very large majority are governed by no such feeling, but are marked with the very worse features that can characterize a people. Certain individuals who have long been banished from the favor of their countrymen, and who, urged on by a dangerous ambition, seek political elevation, and care not by what means they attain it, are prominent in the ranks of this party; aware that under no possible circumstances can they reach power under the present dynasty, they now league with men that but two years since they only recognized as their most bitter opponents. Next in order are arrayed the *disappointed*. These loud brawlers and unceasing abusers of the administration, can, without much difficulty, be properly appreciated;—“had Jaffier’s wife been kind, then Jaffier had been true;”—had the president and the various departments of government, appointed these *disinterested men* to office, their lips would not have been sealed, but would have been moved in loud-sounding expres-

sions of the purity and virtue of their generous benefactors. Then come the *restless and mischievous*—the canker worms incessantly labouring to make inroads upon the healthful constitution of the community; men of disturbed consciences and jaundiced natures; the discarded from all parties that they have hitherto associated with; these *honorable men* volunteer to perform the skirmishing duty; but they are by no means faithful in the service; they loiter about the lines of the enemy, and sometimes peep into their camps; but the reports of their enterprizes are not founded upon actual observation, but are made in conformity with their wishes; and they deceive their associates with as much facility, as they are accustomed to change sides. Last, although not least in the list, but, on the contrary, most prominently marked, is the self devoted, self-interested portion of the party; with many of these it is perfectly indifferent who governs, provided they can be served; not by obtaining public offices—these never enter into the list of their wishes—they direct their views to more important objects; they modestly desire the exclusive privilege of manufacturing for the whole nation, and that all other branches of industry should succumb; if in doing so, they should become prostrate, and dependent upon these lords of the loom and spinning wheel, the consequences would be but trifling; nothing more, than that upon the general ruin that would follow such a course, the manufacturers would build up gigantic fortunes, which would at once enable them to secure an undue and danger-

ous influence, and exclusively to enjoy the direction and government of the country.

For a popular and seductive cover to their real designs, these oppositionists adopt as their creed the "*American system*," which means, not under its covert, but in its full and fair acceptation, the Chinese policy, of building a wall around every seaport, and shutting out forever all foreign intercourse ; of establishing a monopoly, which, while it would feed and fatten the manufacturing interests, would destroy agriculture--prostrate commerce--demolish the nursery of our navy--open the portals of vice and immorality--renew the odious system of direct taxation--bring on individual and national bankruptcy--sink into mean insignificance the elevated character of the republic, and turn this fair garden of the world, with all its winning variety, into a sickly waste and dull monotony. These assuredly would be the results of that wretched experiment called the *American system*, the rallying measure of that party who have raised the standard of *Henry Clay* ; among whom there are thousands who now behold him as the perfect model of political consistency, that in days gone by, denounced him as a *demi-devil*, poisoning the very atmosphere with his vile democracy. The damning notes of the Hartford Convention are now turned to melodious strains of eulogy, and the brands saved from the blue-lights of the late war, then held out as friendly signals to our enemy, have now resumed their blaze, and reflect their influences around the once firm and devoted advocate of republicanism.

Such a cause, with such adherents, can never succeed ; fell despair and defeat will mark the issue of their unrighteous effort, and they will sink and fall, unpitied and unsung. For ourselves, the original democratic party of the country, we have every thing to hope and nothing to fear. We claim an early adoption of our political principles, and an unwavering constancy in their support. We boast that two among the most illustrious citizens that our country ever produced—the *Adams'*—father and son—declared themselves converts to democratic principles ; and that thousands and thousands of other highly respectable and enlightened federalists have, from just conviction, identified themselves with us. *We are now as we ever have been, for measures, not for men. We pin our faith upon no man's sleeve.* We say “let well abide well.” The whole nation is happy and prosperous, and they owe all of their enviable condition, to the free institutions of the country ; to the just and judicious character of the laws, and to the wise and equitable administration of that man, “who has filled the measure of his country's glory,” and who has, in the patriotic ardour of his noble soul, declared that “*the union must be preserved ;*” of him, the patriot warrior, who successfully encountered the conquerors of the conqueror of Europe ; whose undisciplined and scanty troops, met an invading foe ; and fought and conquered a veteran and numerous army ; and realized the beautiful effusion of the poet, so descriptive of the fervency and ardour of freedom—

“For what are fifty, what a thousand slaves—
 Matched to the sinew of a single arm
 That strikes for liberty?—that strikes to
 Save his fields from fire—his couch
 From lust—his daughters from pollution,—
 And his large honours from eternal infamy.”

In presenting this interesting and gratifying picture of our national condition, how proudly can we advert to our own state, and claim for her a large share of the general contribution. We embrace nearly one sixth of the entire population of the union ; and our rapid improvement in every department calling for an exercise of the energies of man, is at once the proudest evidence of the enterprising character and industrious application of the people. Of the whole annual revenue, brought to the treasury chest, we furnish an excess of two-thirds of the amount, while, at the same time, we ask for nothing, and have obtained far less from the general government, than some of the smallest states of the union. In a political point of view, we are equally important. The democratic character of the state, has had a strong tendency in giving a tone and action to many of its sisters of the union, and has thereby materially contributed in preserving our republican institutions, and securing their permanency. At this moment of fresh excitement, when the republican party are about to be assailed by its old enemy, we are proud to recognize at the head of our state government, a citizen of enlightened, cultivated, and energetic mind ; of patriotic feeling, and of pure democratic principles. The interests and dignity of the state will never be compromised, while in such keeping. We are also faithfully and ably

represented in the councils of the nation ; and we stand largely indebted to the delegation of the state generally, but particularly to the representatives of this congressional district, for their assiduous application to its interests, and for their able and successful opposition to those partial and unjust measures, which, with an unblushing boldness, have been introduced and supported by the friends of the American system.

Grand Sachem, Sachems, and Brothers :

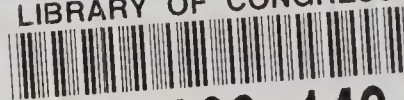
On this day our council fires are lighted up, and joy and delight beams upon every countenance ; and in the plenitude of our hearts, we offer up to the "*Mau-ni-tau*" our humble thanks, that in permitting another year to roll round, he gilds it with the blessings of peace, happiness and prosperity. That the *tomahawk* rests, hidden in the warriors *wigwam* ; and that our *bows* are strung, and our *arrows* pointed, not for the rude purposes of war, but for the pleasing pursuits of the chase. We rejoice that the *grand sachem* of all the numerous and far extended tribes lives, through the favour of the *Mau-ni-tau*, full of years, full of honors, and full of the love of his children, who await in readiness to extend to him a new proof of their sincerity. *Brothers*, for upwards of forty years you have essentially contributed to keep alive the patriot flame ; and you have afforded the best assurances that you love liberty, and are anxious that its blessings should be extended to the whole human race. Your council fire, when lighted up, brings around it thousands of the sons of freedom, who listen to the talks,

and who abide by the decisions of the children of *Tammany*. Our own tribe constitutes a numerous force, and whenever we assemble in our great wigwam, many await the right of admission. *Brothers*—a period is approaching when the war-whoop will be raised, and you will be required to meet the enemy; they love not the peace, happiness and prosperity that the *grand sachem* of all the tribes has given to his children; and they would break the strong chain of our union, and scatter its links far and wide apart; but do you be firm, steadfast and united. As you have ever contended in a noble cause—the advancement of your beloved country—so have you been sustained by the unerring principles of right and justice, and success invariably has marked your progress. Circumstances equally worthy your best considerations and your undivided efforts, will shortly call you into action; boldly meet the foe that will be arrayed against you; you will be impelled by a hallowed motive, while they will be urged by an unnatural opposition, directed against an administration, which has conduced to your individual happiness, and your nation's prosperity. Remember the proud period of your past contests, when the banner of your party waved triumphant; bear about you the recollection, that these glorious results were principally produced by unanimity: then, when the war note is sounded, go to the battle field in the plenitude of your strength, and let your pass-word be *union*; the good of your country demands it; that country which extends to you blessings of incalculable value; blessings so dear and precious, that he who

would not wear their recollection near his heart, is unworthy the appellation of an American citizen.

Brothers—behold this standard of your order; look on it with a steadfast eye—read—“Washington, the father of our country.” By the sainted spirit of him—first in peace, first in war, and first in the hearts of his countrymen—let me invoke you to guard the citadel of your freedom; let no sacriligious hand impair its symmetry or beauty, nor violate the purity of its order. *Brothers*, look with grateful admiration at the thirteen emblems that decorate the pillars of the temple of liberty; their signification is union; they mean a holy league, formed in the gloomy day of your nation’s history; the character of the contract was mutual, honorable, and patriotic; and out of these thirteen jewel links, the master-spirits of the age moulded the chain of that confederacy, which gave to our fathers that virtuous liberty which they have transmitted to us, and which we are bound sacredly to preserve as the rightful inheritance of succeeding generations. *Brothers*, may the *Mau-ni-tau* smile upon you; may the light of happiness continually brighten your respective *wigwams*, and attend you, your *he-ke-ways* and *pau-pooses*; and when it shall be directed that you shall mingle with your parent earth, may your souls be wafted to that abode of everlasting bliss prepared for the virtuous and the good.

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